# Wildlife Advisory Committee

School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration

675 East 500 South Salt Lake City, Utah 84102

# Minutes of December 18, 2014

**Committee:** 

Lavonne Garrison (Non-voting)

Tom Bachtell

Byron Bateman

Ashley Green Miles Hanberg

## Others in Attendance:

Aaron Garrett, USOE Scott Bugosh, Anadarko Mark Davidson, Anadarko Sean Kelly, Anadarko Tom Marranzino, Anadarko Jim Klima, Anadarko John Larson, State Fish and Wildlife Nannette Johnson, SITLA LaVonne Garrison opened the meeting and thanked those in attendance.

#### Review for Approval of Minutes of February 25, 2014

Minutes of February 25 were approved as presented and posted to the **Public Notice Website**.

#### **Introduction of a New Committee Member**

Ms. Garrison noted that Shane Cross was selected to fill the vacancy created by Casey Snyder's resignation from the committee. The newest member of the committee was not able to attend and will, therefore, be introduced at a future meeting.

#### One-Eye Canyon Presentation - Anadarko

Lavonne Garrison introduced Scott Bugosh of Anadarko who briefly outlined that a timeline for the coming months had been drafted. Anadarko requested a meeting to present the objectives for the timeline in the coming year.

Mr. Bugosh introduced Mark Davidson for a presentation. Mr. Davidson outlined a sample program. [The PowerPoint presentation and recording are available on the <a href="Public Notice Website">Public Notice Website</a>]

#### One Eye Canyon Seismic Program Overview

Anadarko plans to acquire ~10 square miles of 3D seismic in the One Eye Canyon area.

- Reasonable access to much of area through existing roads & trails
- Recording devices will be "wireless" systems
- Reduced footprint, no cables strung between receiver points
- Program will be approximately 75% heli-portable & 25% buggy-based
- Program will be acquired using small explosive charges

### **Area of Operations**

Presentation was a conceptual example of the program – actual program has not been finalized Heli-portable vs Buggy Drill Distribution

#### **Logistics**

- Man camp is preferable
  - Reduce travel to and from field for crew
  - Improves efficiency and safety of overall program
  - Several potential locations identified (Willow Flats, for example)
- Staging areas for equipment
  - Numerous existing locations throughout area; runways and other existing areas are preferable to eliminate any increased footprint
- Heli support
  - Suitable helicopter staging
  - Existing runways at Moon Ridge or Cedar Camp Ridge; Willow Flats
- Water
  - Required for drilling; sourced locally if available (water well)
  - Exploring options to reduce trucking

#### Willow Flats

The Willow Flats site is targeted for a man camp that would be set up to reduce travel for crews during the project. Willow Flats would also accommodate a helipad.

#### **Timeline**

- Late May start at end of winter/wet conditions
- Drilling seismic holes completed in June

- Preferable data acquisition window of July August
  - Most preferable weather conditions
  - Advantageous to finish program prior to fall hunting season

## **Questions and Further New/Old Business**

LaVonne Garrison asked when the timing details would be specific. Mr. Davidson reported that the design would be based on accessibility to the areas.

Mr. Bateman mentioned the calving and fawning season begins in the first part of June. He asked if that is when the drilling is planned to begin. Mr. Davidson indicated May is ideal and would last through the end of June.

Mr. Bateman asked if the plan was to begin seismic in April and how many shots will be in the area. Mr. Davidson said the design would drive the number of shots. He estimated there would be a couple-thousand shots. The holes are about 4" and 60 feet deep but it depends on the charge size. The area will be reseeded as necessary for reclamation. Ms. Garrison noted the appropriate seed mix would be identified for the area by SITLA. Anadarko will respond to reclamation and surface rehab requirements.

Ms. Garrison asked DWR for maps to identify calving and fawning areas for both elk and deer. The area does not have any sage grouse. Miles Hanberg said a typical calving season could begin as early as May 15 and go into July. A July 15 timeline would give the young animals a chance to get mobile.

Mr. Davidson said they might be able to adjust a timeline to begin drilling the holes in April to limit the overlap with calving and fawning season. He also noted snow on the ground is not generally a problem. Storms may limit or delay the work.

Scott Bugosh said there is little disturbance during the data shoot and it is simply moving from shot to shot to record data. Drilling to set the shots takes four to six weeks. The charges should set for a couple of weeks before coming back to acquire the data to "rest" the holes and charges.

The recovery of the gear would likely be done before the peak hunting begins for the safety of crews. Miles Hanberg noted that drilling in April and into the first two weeks of May would be acceptable in relation to calving and fawning.

Ms. Garrison asked when Anadarko would know if the work would happen this year and how long it would take to set up the program and begin work. Mr. Davidson indicated if an investment decision is made in late February, it will take about a month to identify a crew and assure the permits are in place. He noted that mid-April would be an aggressive timeline.

Ms. Garrison asked if it would be possible for crews to be working during the month of May. Mr. Hanberg indicated the peak for calving and fawning will be the month of June. He also asked if the timeline could be addressed when the funding is in place.

Mr. Hanberg noted the fall hunting season has limited entry hunts that are in August and September. Rifle and muzzleloader are limited entries that take up to 20 years to draw. The general hunting season would begin after the limited entry around the first part of October.

Mr. Davidson said they would prefer to avoid the general hunting season.

Ashley Green asked if there might still be an opportunity to tour the area. Ms. Garrison indicated a tour was a possibility.

LaVonne Garrison suggested a meeting be scheduled after the investment has been determined. The committee will consider a meeting the first part of March.

# Adjourn